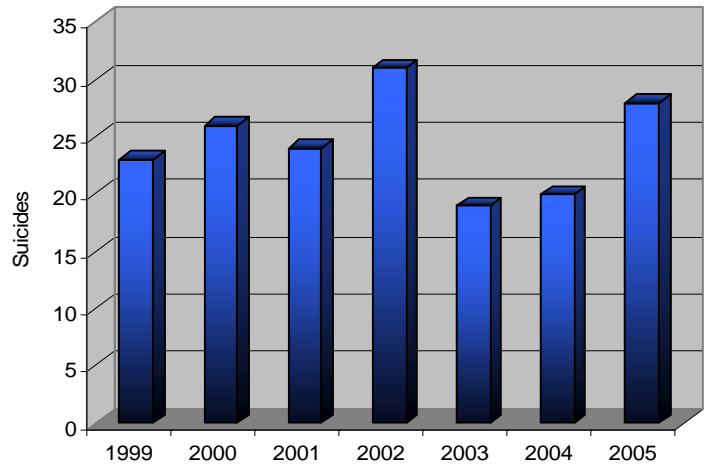


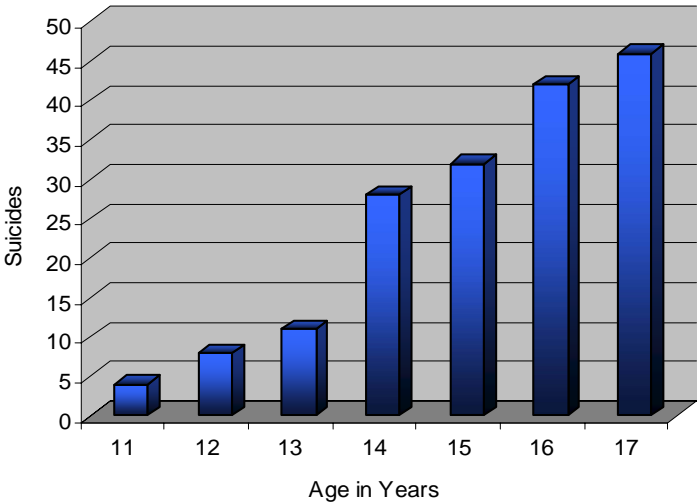
Suicide Deaths of Children 17 and Under, 1999-2005

In the Commonwealth of Virginia, there was a total of 5,717 suicides between the years of 1999 through 2005; of these, 171 or 3% were children 17 years old and younger. These deaths were distributed basically evenly through the 7 years of review and were all found in 11-17 year old children. An overall rate of 3.4 suicides per 100,000 children age 11-17 was calculated based on the Virginia residents only (N=165). The older children (15-17 years old) had a rate 3.1 times that of the younger group (11-14 years old).

Children Suicides by Year, 1999-2005

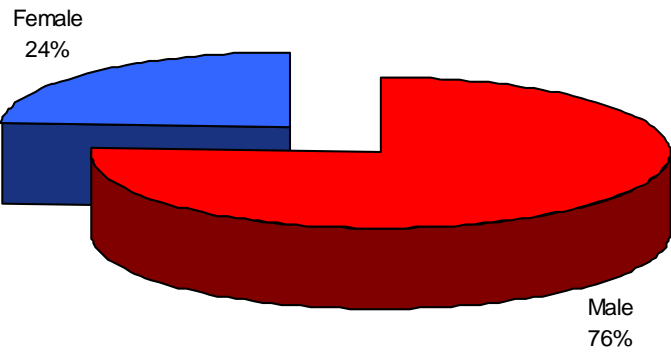


Children Suicides by Age, 1999-2005

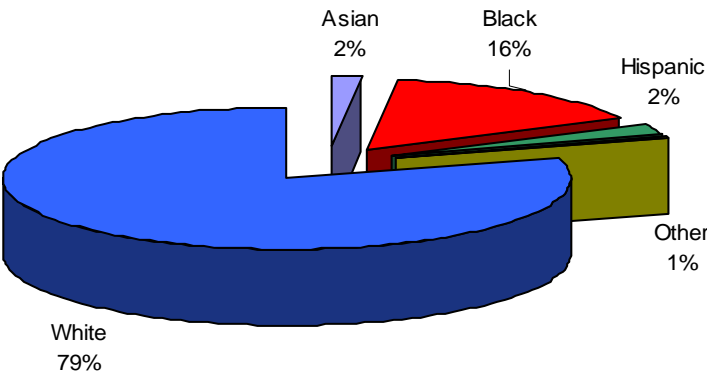


Males accounted for 76% of the child suicides with a residential rate of 5 per 100,000 compared to 1.7 for females. White children were slightly overrepresented accounting for 79% of the child suicides with a residential rate of 3.8 per 100,000 compared to blacks at 2.1 per 100,000 and Asians and Hispanics both at 1.5 per 100,000.

Children Suicides by Gender, 1999-2005

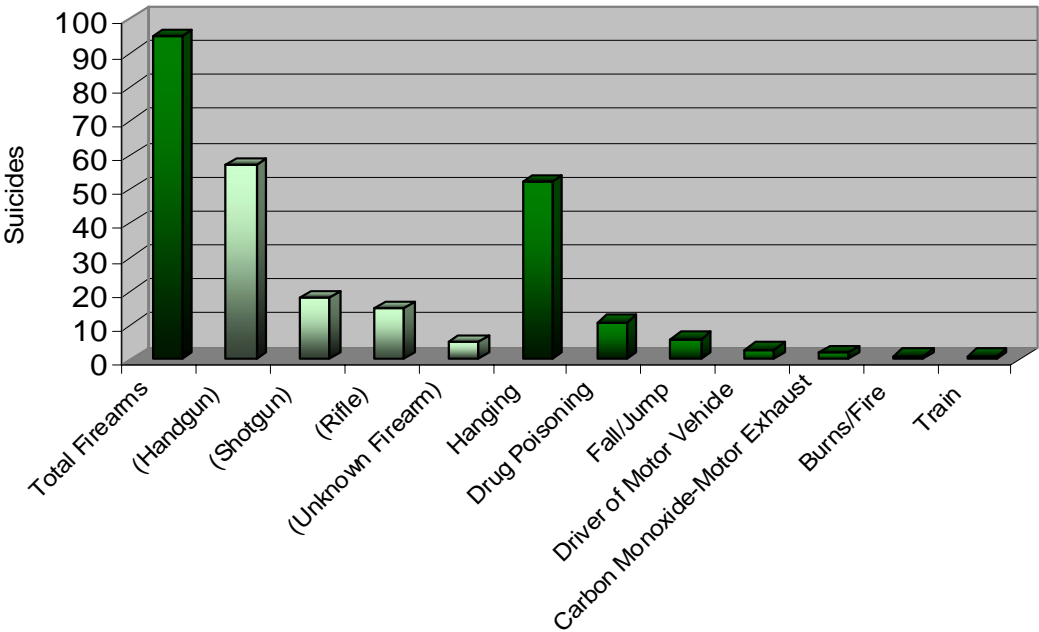


Children Suicides by Race/Ethnicity, 1999-2005

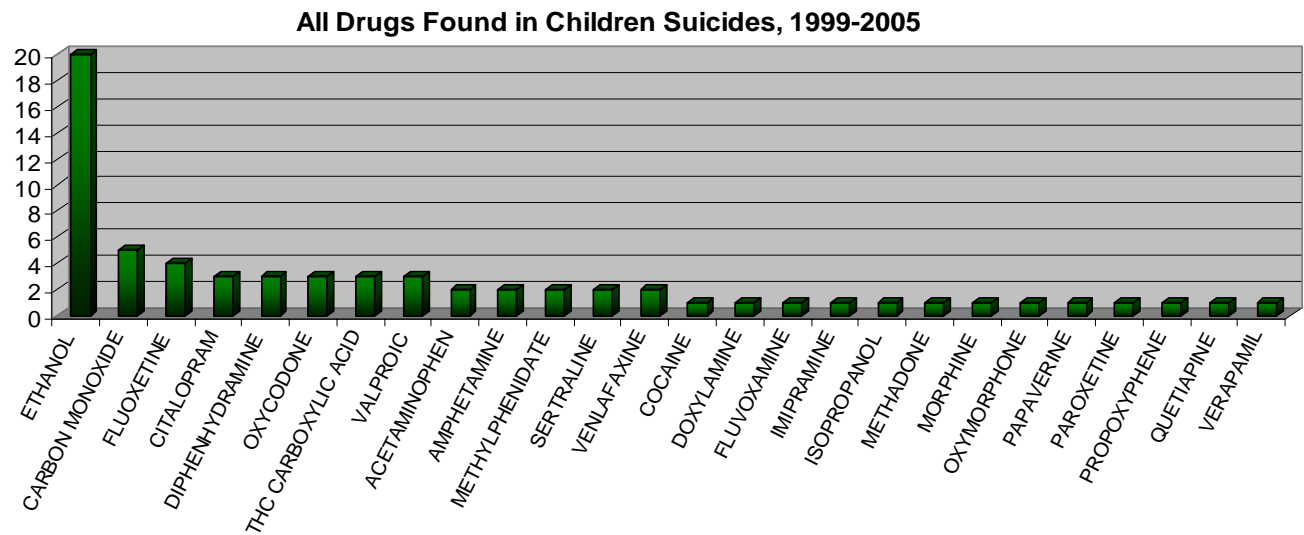


Firearms accounted for 55.6% of all suicide deaths of children with handguns accounting for 60% of these deaths. Hanging followed next with 30.4% of the suicides.

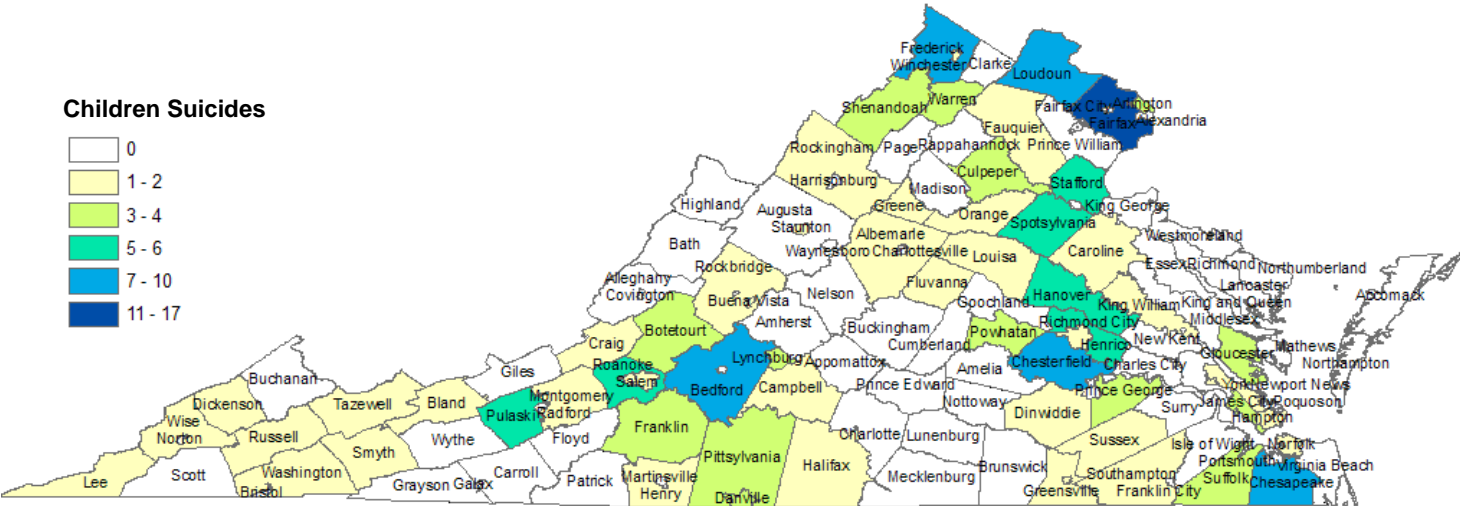
Children Suicides by Method, 1999-2005



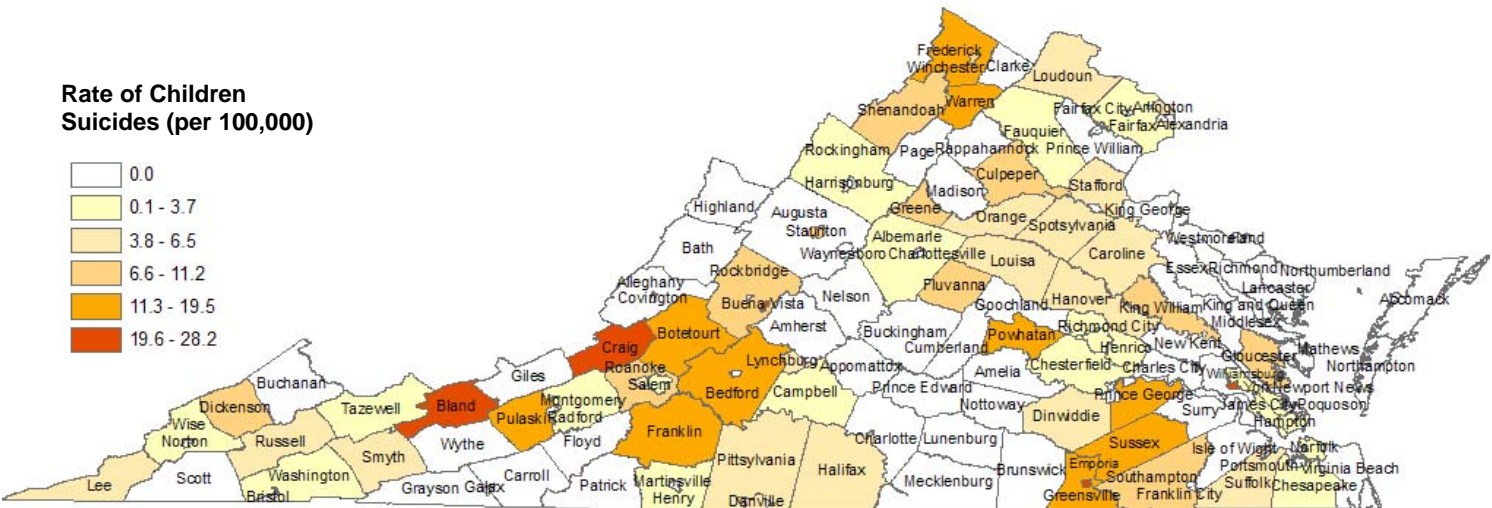
Even though only 13 children used drugs or poisons as a method of suicide, 48 children had some type of drug in their systems at the time of their deaths. Ethanol was found in 20 cases followed by carbon monoxide with 5 and then small numbers of different prescription and illicit drugs.



While many counties and cities did not have any child residential suicides between 1999 and 2005 Fairfax, Loudoun, Frederick, Bedford, Chesterfield, and Chesapeake Counties had many during this time frame.



Looking at only Virginia residents (N=165), Bland and Craig Counties along with Williamsburg and Emporia Cities had high rates of child suicides during this time frame.



For additional information, visit the following websites:

- <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/medExam/ChildFatality.htm>
- <http://www.vahealth.org/civp/preventsuicideva/data.asp>
- <http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/factsheets/suifacts.htm>
- <http://www.sprc.org/stateinformation/statepages/showhistory.asp?stateID=46>